

A SURVEY OF UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
VARSITY FOOTBALL ATHLETES

by

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## ABSTRACT

A survey was taken to compare the status of University of Utah football athletes who lettered in varsity football in 1961 through 1966. The comparison was made between three groups. Group I was the group of athletes who did not go on to play any form of post college organized football; Group II were those athletes who did play some form of post college organized football, and the Total Group was the combination of Group I and Group II.

The comparisons were made in the areas of football participation, educational achievements, current residences, occupational opportunities and marriage-family status.

A concise and comprehensive questionnaire was utilized to gather the desired information. One hundred thirty questionnaires were distributed to former University of Utah football athletes and 76 per cent of the athletes returned them completed. The data from the questionnaires were compiled and tabulated on large charts. Comparisons were then made between the three groups in the five specific areas of study.

It was found that of the 100 respondents, sixty-seven (67%) did not go on to play post college organized football, whereas thirty-three (33%) did go on to play some form of post college organized football. These groups were designated as Group I and Group II respectively.



There was a significant difference in the area of educational achievement. Group I surpassed Group II by having sixty-one (91%) graduate whereas Group II only had seventeen (51.5%) graduate. From Group I, seven (14%) obtained their Masters Degree. From Group II none of the athletes obtained their Masters Degree.

Seventy-five (75%) of the total respondents listed their residences as being out of the State of Utah. Fifty-one (61%) gave occupation as their reason for not residing in the state. When the Total Group was broken down into Group I, those athletes who did not go on to play post college organized football, and Group II, those athletes who did go on to play post college organized football, it was found that of Group I, forty-two (70%) resided out of the State of Utah, and Group II had thirty-three (100%) residing out of the State of Utah.

Seventy-four (74%) of the total respondents had incorporated some form of football into their occupation either as a player or a coach.

The number one occupation of Group I was high school coaching, and in Group II it was playing professional football.

In the last area, marriage-family status, fifty-six (83%) of Group I were married as compared with twenty-eight (67%) of Group II.

The results of this survey indicated that a greater emphasis should be placed on the athletes to complete their education and also to be encouraged to continue to graduate study due to the greater emphasis for higher educated people in our society.

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

Many students upon leaving school, either through graduation or by dropping out, become completely divorced from their alma mater. Because all contact may be lost with their former school, it becomes interesting to gain knowledge of those students in such areas as educational achievement and occupational endeavors. In this particular study the people surveyed were student athletes at university level. Inquiry was made as to what these athletes did after leaving school and their reasons for doing so in hopes of being of some interest and of greater value to university officials, educators, and athletic departments.

#### Statement of the Problem

The general problem was to compare the status of University of Utah football athletes during the years 1961 through 1966 who did not go on to play in any form of post-college organized football (Group I), with a group of University football athletes who did go on to play some form of post-college organized football (Group II).

The specific problems were to compare Group I with Group II with respect to:

1. The extent of intercollegiate and post-college football participation by each individual in both groups.

2. The education level achieved by each individual in both groups.
3. The current residence of each athlete in both groups.
4. The past and present occupations of each individual in both groups at the time the survey was conducted.
5. The family or marital status of each individual in both groups.

#### Definition of Terms

In an effort to clarify the meaning and to assist in the understanding of this survey, the following terms were defined:

Status. This term is the present socio-economic condition or position of the former athlete.

Athlete. This is an intercollegiate varsity football letterman, who participated in football while attending the University of Utah.

Football Career. A term that refers to an athlete's achievement and advancement in football at the University of Utah and further participation in post-college football.

Education. A word that means the educational achievement of an athlete with regard to the total amount of education completed and degrees granted.

Post-college Organized Football. A phrase meaning the participation in any established form of football other than inter-

collegiate football. High school football is not included.

Group I. This was the group of athletes that upon leaving the University did not go on to play any form of post-college organized football.

Group II. This was the group of athletes that upon leaving the University did go on to play in some form of post-college organized football.

Total Group. This term included the combination of Group I and Group II.

Occupation. The term in the survey defined as the past and present job opportunities of the former athlete.

Family Status. This was a phrase that concerns the marital status and number of children in the family of the athlete.

#### Delimitations of the Problem

In an effort to keep the survey within workable bounds and to make the findings meaningful and worthwhile, certain delimitations were necessary:

1. This survey was limited to 130 intercollegiate varsity football athletes who had lettered at the University of Utah.
2. This survey was limited to a five year time period between 1961 and 1966.



### Justification of the Problem

The University of Utah's intercollegiate football program has enjoyed some success by recruiting and playing those athletes who the coaches felt could help the program the most. Before the athlete could play football he had to be academically qualified. During the time period of 1961 through 1966, each athlete was eligible to enter school and participate in football under the rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association which stipulates a 1.66 Grade Point Average. There has been one study made in the area of Physical Education graduates, and also one completed on athletes in general at the University of Utah. Since no studies of the particular sport, football, have been done at the University, this thesis may be valuable information to the University as well as to other interested persons. Also, it could be valuable as a collection of data to be used by anyone who may be interested in any of the areas covered in the study.

It was the purpose of this survey to gain knowledge of what these athletes accomplished during their college days in school and football, along with what they have done since their college career ended. Information gained from a survey such as this could very well be used to assist in the planning and development of programs for both the Athletic and Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Departments. This information could be useful to the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation to coordinate with the Athletic Department in class programming for the student athletes, because

a number of athletes major in the field of Health, Physical Education or Recreation. By understanding the current status and professional development of past student athletes, future plans could be made and school curricula developed conducive to the successful completion of each athlete's needed education. This is important because the athletes are required to spend extra curricular time with football, so it limits their study time. Class programming is also restricted, since they are not allowed to take afternoon classes. The survey was directed towards ascertaining the prevailing conditions and status, which, when the accumulated specified information was computed and summarized, more clearly may describe the differences, if any, between Group I and Group II.

#### Method of Study and Sources of Data

It was determined to utilize the survey method for the most effective gain of the desired information. The project was to compare prevailing conditions and status of 130 former University of Utah inter-collegiate varsity football athletes who lettered in this varsity sport during a time period of five years between 1961 and 1966. A questionnaire checklist was prepared to obtain the desired information. The questions covered five areas: organized football participation, educational achievement, occupational information, residence, and family status.

The questionnaire was designed to be comprehensive in its coverage of the data, and yet, concise enough to be easily understood and completed by the respondents. Prior to the activation of the

questionnaires and initial letter, both items were examined by the University of Utah Physical Education Department in an effort to assure the highest validity of the returns. A complete and current list of the addresses of the football athletes was obtained from the University of Utah Alumni office and the University of Utah Athletic Department. The initial letter and questionnaire were sent out to the athletes along with an enclosed, stamped, self-addressed envelope to increase the chances of return of the questionnaire. After one month a follow-up letter and a second questionnaire were sent out to those who did not respond to the first mailing.

After the desired information was compiled and tabulated the respondents were divided into two groups for comparison. The two groups formed were composed of those persons in Group I who did not play in any form of post-college organized football with those persons in Group II who did go on to play in some forms of post-college organized football. Comparisons were made between the two groups in those areas of organized football participation, educational achievement, occupational information, residence, and family status.

#### Review of Related Literature

There have been very few surveys made in the area of athletics at the University of Utah. In fact, two have been made in the area of intercollegiate athletics and one completed in the area of Physical Education. The latter survey as mentioned above has been valuable as a guide in style, format, and method for this particular project.

Lyle Elsworth Ranck, Jr., made a follow-up study of University of Utah Physical Education graduates. It was an attempt to gain some knowledge of the activities since graduation of the male Physical Education majors who graduated between 1943 and 1958 from the University. Particular interest and emphasis was placed in the areas of educational achievement, occupational endeavors, mobility, and current personal information. The above areas were studied in an attempt to compare two subgroups of the original group, namely those still in the profession of education and those who left the profession of teaching.

The conclusions gained from this study were that there was a general significant difference in the four areas studied between the different groups. For example, in the area of educational achievement, the differences found between those in education and those out of education were significant. Those differences were a result of the requirements placed upon the members of the profession for advanced education. Many Physical Education graduates left the field following their graduation and undertook no additional schooling.<sup>1</sup>

Anthony Simone made a study to find the socio-economical status of intercollegiate athletes graduating from the University of Utah and to compare them with other male college graduates. The group

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<sup>1</sup>Lyle Elsworth Ranck, Jr., "A Follow-up Study of University of Utah Physical Education Graduates" (unpublished Master's thesis, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1966).



included varsity letter winners between 1921 and 1942 inclusive. A significant difference was found between the athletes and the group with which they were compared. The differences were generally in favor of the athletes. For example, in appraising the outcomes of intercollegiate athletics, the respondents indicated that athletics tend to contribute to the psychological, psysiological, and sociological development of the participants.

Also that the status of the athletic group, as reflected by the characteristics studied, tends to indicate that adequate adjustments were made by the athletes to the social and economic forces confronting them after college.<sup>2</sup>

Charles Eugene Woodbury conducted a study to determine the attitudes held by specific groups of people, connected with the three institutions of higher learning in Utah, toward intercollegiate football. A total of 390 people were questioned about their attitudes concerning eligibility, scholastic credit, curriculum loads, and the administration of college football games. The group who expressed their attitudes in this study were administrators, faculty members, physical educators and coaches, parents, business alumni, students, and athletes. The group as a whole responded to the study in such a way that there appears to be approximately as many in agreement with those phases of intercollegiate football being studied as responses in disagreement with those same phases mentioned above.

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<sup>2</sup>Anthony Simone, "The Socio-Economic Status of Intercollegiate Athletes" (unpublished Doctoral dissertation, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 1953).

For example, the questionnaire elicited responses which were completely negative or positive. These statements had to do with proselyting administration of football games, and eligibility.<sup>3</sup>

#### Organization of the Remaining Chapters of the Study

The remainder of this survey was organized in the following manner:

Chapter II. Method of Study

Chapter III. Report of the Project Findings

Chapter IV. Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations.

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<sup>3</sup>Charles Eugene Woodbury, "Attitudes Toward Intercollegiate Football" (unpublished Master's thesis, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 1954).

## CHAPTER II

### METHOD OF STUDY

The problem selected was to conduct a survey of University of Utah varsity football lettermen. The first consideration was to determine the method by which the necessary data were to be collected. Because of the relatively large number of people to be included in the survey, and also the distance over which they were located, the survey method was decided to be most effective. A questionnaire checklist was developed as the means to collect the needed and desired information.

The greater return of the questionnaires sent to the athletes, the more valid the study; therefore, special effort was made to keep the questionnaire concise and simple in style and format so that it would be easy to complete. The questionnaire could be completed by checking appropriate blanks or writing a short completion answer. This concise and simple form assured a greater return of the questionnaire. There were 100 respondents to the questionnaire which represented a 76 per cent return.

The next two steps were to obtain a list of those football lettermen and their current addresses. A complete list of the names of 130 football varsity lettermen playing between 1961 and 1966 was obtained from the University of Utah Athletic Department. The addresses of the athletes were obtained from the University of Utah Alumni office.

A letter of explanation was composed and sent to those to be surveyed requesting their aid in the acquisition of the needed and desired information. The letter explained the purpose of the study and the importance for those being surveyed to complete and return the questionnaire. In an effort to gain the highest possible return of questionnaires, a stamped self-addressed envelope was enclosed with each letter.

At this point in the sequence, the questionnaire and initial letter were sent to each of the 130 varsity football lettermen who would be included in this survey. To determine exactly who did return the questionnaire and who did not, each person surveyed was given a number on each questionnaire sent out to identify the response. Approximately one month was allowed for the return of the completed questionnaires. At the end of the month there were a number of questionnaires which had not yet been received. A follow-up letter was written intended to solicit support from those who had not responded the first time. This follow-up letter and another questionnaire were mailed out to those not responding to the first mailing. Another waiting period was then allowed for the return of the final questionnaire.

After the first period of mailing, a total of 65 questionnaires had been received. This represented about a 50 per cent return. The second and last period of mailing brought in 35 more responses, making an additional 27 per cent return, for an overall total of 100 questionnaires returned out of 131 mailed out. This represented a 76 per cent total return. Twenty-six athletes failed

to answer the survey, representing a 20 per cent lack of return and four per cent of the questionnaires were returned because of improper addressing.

The information obtained from the questionnaire forms was compiled utilizing large charts. This data was then tabulated in two different ways. The first listed responses of the entire group of 100 respondents. The second listing was a comparison of Group I and Group II in the following five general areas which were:

(1) Football participation included information concerning the number of varsity letters received at the University, completion of eligibility, and participation in post-college organized football.

(2) Educational achievements included information about undergraduates' major and minor fields of study, how many graduated, how many furthered their education beyond a Bachelor's degree and future plans for furthering education after this survey was conducted.

(3) Residence included information on the states from which each athlete was recruited, and where they were presently residing when the survey was taken.

(4) Occupation included information on each athlete's past and present jobs up to the date the survey was taken.

(5) Family status included information on the marital standing of each athlete and the size of his present family up to the date of the survey.



## CHAPTER III

### REPORT OF PROJECT FINDINGS

The information gathered from this survey was presented in three ways. First, information was compiled from the questionnaire for the total 100 respondents. To make the study more meaningful, the total group of 100 was divided into two groups: Group I, composed of those who did not go on to play organized football; and Group II, composed of those who did go on to play post-college organized football. Comparisons were made between these two groups in five separate categories: (1) football career, (2) educational achievements, (3) residence, (4) occupation, and (5) family status.

From the formation of these two groups, it was found that 67 athletes who played college football at the University of Utah did not go on to play organized post-college football. This represented 67 per cent of the total respondents surveyed. Thirty-three athletes of those surveyed did go on to play organized post-college football. This represented 33 per cent of the total respondents.

The first area of consideration was the category of football participation. This area included the number of varsity football letters received during the years that the athletes played football at the University of Utah and completion of their football eligibility. In the total group 13 athletes (13 per cent) received

one varsity football letter, 42 athletes (42 per cent) received two varsity football letters, and 45 received three varsity football letters.

In Group I, 11 athletes (16 per cent) received one varsity football letter; 26 athletes (38 per cent) received two varsity football letters and 30 athletes (46 per cent) received three varsity football letters.

In Group II, two athletes (6 per cent) received one varsity football letter; 16 athletes (49 per cent) received two varsity football letters, and 15 athletes (45 per cent) received three varsity football letters.

This information can be found in Table I. The comparison of these groups was interesting. The percentage of varsity letters received was about the same, but the deviation occurred in the first two categories. In the area of athletes receiving one varsity letter, Group I received 10 per cent more than Group II. In the category of obtaining three varsity football letters, Group II received 11 per cent more than Group I.

In response to the question concerning completion of intercollegiate football eligibility, the total group had 67 athletes (76 per cent) completing their intercollegiate football eligibility and only 24 (24 per cent) not completing their eligibility. From Group I, 52 (78 per cent) completed their intercollegiate football eligibility and 15 (22 per cent) did not complete their eligibility. In Group II, 24 (73 per cent) completed their intercollegiate eligibility, and nine (27 per cent) did not.

TABLE I

NUMBER OF VARSITY LETTER AWARDS RECEIVED  
BY THE THREE GROUPS

	TOTAL GROUP		GROUP I		GROUP II	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
One Varsity Letter	13	13	11	16	2	6
Two Varsity Letters	42	42	26	38	16	49
Three Varsity Letters	45	45	30	46	15	45

In comparing these two groups there was no difference noted in this particular area. The comparisons can be found in Table II. Fifty per cent of the 24 athletes did not complete their intercollegiate eligibility due to a player-coach conflict. Six (25 per cent) did not complete eligibility due to grades and school problems; two (9 per cent) were due to injury and four (16 per cent) did not give a reason. These results can be found in Table III.

An interesting comparison was made in both groups on completion or non-completion of intercollegiate football eligibility with those who graduated or those who did not graduate from the University of Utah. In Group I, two athletes (3 per cent) did not complete their eligibility and also did not graduate; 46



TABLE II

A COMPARISON OF THE THREE GROUPS OF RESPONDENTS  
WITH RESPECT TO THEIR COMPLETION OF INTER-  
COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL ELIGIBILITY AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

	TOTAL GROUP		GROUP I		GROUP II	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Completion	76	76	52	78	24	73
Incompletion	24	24	15	22	9	27

TABLE III

REASONS WHY THE TOTAL OF TWENTY-FOUR ATHLETES  
DID NOT COMPLETE THEIR INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOT-  
BALL ELIGIBILITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Reason	Number	Per cent
Player-Coach Conflict	12	50
School (grades)	6	25
Injury	2	9
No Reason	4	16

athletes (69 per cent) did complete their eligibility and also graduated from college; four athletes (6 per cent) did complete their eligibility but did not graduate; 15 athletes (22 per cent) did not complete their eligibility, but did graduate. In Group II, five athletes (15 per cent) did not complete their eligibility and also did not graduate; 13 athletes did complete their eligibility and also did graduate; 12 (36 per cent) did complete their eligibility but did not graduate; and three (10 per cent) did not complete their eligibility, but did graduate. This data is presented in Table IV. In analyzing the results, a big difference occurred in the category of athletes who did complete their eligibility but did not graduate. Group II surpassed Group I by 30 per cent in this area.

In the area of educational achievements, the items covered were degrees obtained, number of hours left to complete education, reasons for not obtaining a degree, and major and minor fields of study.

Seventy-eight (78 per cent) graduated out of the total 100 respondents leaving 22 (22 per cent) who did not graduate. Out of the 78 graduates, nine (12 per cent) went on to graduate school and 55 (71 per cent) plan to enter graduate work in the near future. From the 22 (22 per cent) who did not receive a degree from the University of Utah, 17 (78 per cent) plan to continue and complete their education and three (14 per cent) do not. In Group I, 31 athletes (91 per cent) did obtain a degree while at the University, and six athletes (9 per cent) did not receive a degree. In Group II, 17 (51.5 per cent) did graduate and 16 (48.5 per cent) did not graduate.

TABLE IV

A COMPARISON OF THE THREE GROUPS BY NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES WITH RESPECT TO: (1) THOSE WHO DID COMPLETE THEIR ELIGIBILITY AND DID GRADUATE: (2) THOSE WHO DID COMPLETE THEIR ELIGIBILITY BUT DID NOT GRADUATE: (3) THOSE WHO DID NOT COMPLETE THEIR ELIGIBILITY BUT DID GRADUATE: (4) THOSE WHO DID NOT COMPLETE THEIR ELIGIBILITY NOR GRADUATE

	Did Complete Eligibility Did Graduate	Did Complete Eligibility Did Not Graduate	Did Not Complete Eligibility But Did Graduate	Did Not Complete Eligibility Did Not Graduate
<u>GROUP I</u>				
Number of Persons	46	4	15	2
Percentage	69	6	22	3
<u>GROUP II</u>				
Number of Persons	13	12	3	5
Percentage	39	36	10	15
<u>TOTAL GROUP</u>				
Number of Persons	59	16	18	7
Percentage	59	16	18	7

It appeared from the data collected that a much higher percentage of Group I, those who did not play organized football after college, did graduate without interference. From the total group five (23 per cent) of the 22 athletes who did not graduate gave school (grades) as a reason for not completing their education, three (14 per cent) said that the service had interfered, three (14 per cent) had financial difficulties, one (5 per cent) left school to play professional football and ten (44 per cent) gave no reason. In breaking this area down into the two groups, one (17 per cent) of Group I gave school as the reason for non-completion of their education, one (17 per cent) went into the service, two (33 per cent) had financial problems, and two (33 per cent) gave no reason. Six (38 per cent) of Group II gave school as their reason which is quite a bit higher than Group I (21 per cent higher), two (13 per cent) of Group II went into the service, one (5 per cent) left school to play professional football and seven (44 per cent) did not give a reason for non-completion of their education. Refer to Tables V, VI, VII, and VIII for tabulated information in this area. At the time this survey was conducted, the six in Group I who did not graduate had an average of three quarters of course work per person left before obtaining a college degree. Group II had an average of 2.9 quarters of course work per person left to complete graduation requirements. As can be seen, there was very little difference as to the average number of quarters of course work left to complete between the two groups.

TABLE V

A COMPARISON OF THE THREE GROUPS WITH RESPECT  
TO DEGREE AND NON DEGREE GRANTED ATHLETES  
FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

	TOTAL GROUP*		GROUP I		GROUP II	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Degree Granted	78	78	61	91	17	51.5
Non-Degree Granted	22	22	6	9	16	48.5

\*Of the total 22 athletes who did not receive a Bachelor degree, three do not plan to continue to obtain a degree, 17 plan to go on to obtain a degree, and two gave no response to the question.

TABLE VI

REASONS FROM THE TOTAL GROUP OF PERSONS SURVEYED  
FOR NOT COMPLETING GRADUATION AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF UTAH

Reason	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
School (grades)	5	23
Service	3	14
Finances	3	14
Football (Post-college)	1	5
No Reason	10	44

TABLE VII

REASONS FOR NOT COMPLETING GRADUATION  
FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH OF  
GROUP I

Reason	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
Finances	2	33
School (grades)	1	17
Service	1	17
No Reason	2	33

TABLE VIII

REASONS FOR NOT COMPLETING GRADUATION FROM THE  
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
OF GROUP II

Reason	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
School (grades)	6	38
Service	2	13
Football (Post-college)	1	5
No Reason	7	44



In the area of the highest college degree obtained above the Bachelor level by the total number of respondents in the survey, it was found that seven (7 per cent) had their Master's degree, 54 (54 per cent) had future plans to do graduate work, and 39 (39 per cent) had no plans to advance to a higher level of education. This information is shown in Table IX. In Group I, 11 per cent had received their Master's degree, 58 per cent had plans to return to school to do graduate work, and 31 per cent had no future plans of furthering their education. Table X gives a list of the fields of study in which the 39 athletes (53 per cent) in Group I plan to do their graduate work.

In Group II, as shown in Table XI, none had a Master's degree, 15 (45 per cent) had future plans to do graduate work, and 18 (55 per cent) had no plans to further their education.

TABLE IX

POST GRADUATE WORK ACCOMPLISHED AND/OR FUTURE PLANS  
FOR FURTHER EDUCATION OF THE TOTAL GROUP

	Number	Per cent
Master's Degree	7	7
Future Plans	54	54
No Future Plans	39	39

TABLE X

POST GRADUATE WORK ACCOMPLISHED AND FUTURE  
PLANS FOR FURTHERING EDUCATION OF GROUP I

	Number	Per cent
Master's Degree	7	14
Future Plans	39	33
No Future Plans	21	33

A LIST OF FIELDS THAT GROUP I HAS EXPRESSED  
HAVING MASTER'S DEGREES IN OR FUTURE PLANS  
FOR GRADUATE WORK

Subject	Number of Persons
Physical Education	18
Business	9
Education Administration	5
Engineering	2
Physical Therapy	2
Zoology	2
Education Psychology	1
Law	1
Speech Therapy	1
Sociology	1
Chemistry	1
Undecided	3



TABLE XI

POST GRADUATE WORK ACCOMPLISHED AND FUTURE  
PLANS FOR FURTHER EDUCATION OF GROUP II

	Number	Per cent
Master's Degree	0	0
Future Plans	15	45
No Future Plans	18	55

A LIST OF FIELDS IN WHICH THE ABOVE FIFTEEN GRADUATES  
HAVE FUTURE PLANS TO DO GRADUATE WORK

Subject	Number of Persons
Education Administration	2
Physical Education	2
M.B.A. Program	2
Business	1
Counseling (Educ. Psych.)	1
Recreation	1
Sociology	1
Botany	1
Law	1
Undecided	3

The results seemed to indicate that Group II lacked adequate desire to further their education by going on to graduate school.

Table XII shows the major fields of study for the respondents.

TABLE XII

MAJOR FIELDS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY OF THE  
TOTAL GROUP SURVEYED FROM UNIVERSITY  
OF UTAH

Field	Number of Persons in the area of study	Percentage of Persons in the area of study
Physical Education	40	40
Recreation and Health	16	16
Business	14	14
Engineering	8	8
Biology or Zoology	6	6
Sociology	5	5
Pharmacy	2	2
Political Science	2	2
English	2	2
History	2	2
Psychology	2	2
Art	1	1
Undergraduate study of Group I and Group II		

In analyzing the major field of study, it was found that 41 out of 100 (40 per cent) chose Physical Education as their major, and seven (7 per cent) chose it as their minor. Out of this 40 per cent, 20 received their Teaching Certificate, and out of those 20, 14 were using their teaching as an occupation. It was found that six left the teaching field altogether. From the 14 who stayed in the teaching profession, it was interesting to note that only four were residing in Utah. This means that 10 teachers (72 per cent) left the State of Utah to teach elsewhere. All 72 per cent gave higher pay as their reason for leaving the state. The locations of these 10 teachers are shown in Table XIII. Table XIV reveals the minor fields of study for the 40 physical education majors. A comparison of the two groups indicated that 27, which is 41 per cent, were Physical Education majors in Group I, and 13, or 39 per cent, majored in Physical Education from Group II. Tables XV and XVI indicate the minor fields of study for both groups that majored in Physical Education.

In determining the mobility of the 100 athletes involved in the study, it was found that 75 listed residences outside the State of Utah. This figure represented 75 per cent of the total number surveyed. Only 25 respondents listed Utah as their current residence. This represented 25 per cent. The reason given by 51 (or 60 per cent) of those 75 who left the state, was occupation; 75 left because of the armed service, five per cent left because of their parents, another five per cent left because of the climate, and 23 per cent gave no reason. Table XVII shows this tabulated information.

TABLE XIII

LOCATIONS OF THE TEN ATHLETES FROM THE TOTAL  
GROUP WHO RECEIVED TEACHING CERTIFICATES AND  
LEFT THE STATE OF UTAH FOR HIGHER PAY

Location	Number
California	6
Canada	2
Wyoming	1
Oregon	1

TABLE XIV

A LIST OF UNDERGRADUATES MINOR FIELDS OF STUDY FROM THE  
TOTAL GROUP OF FORTY PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJORS

Major	Number
Biology	15
Sociology	11
Recreation	3
Engineering	2
Health	6
History	1
Political Science	1
No Minor	1
Total	40

TABLE XV

MINOR FIELDS OF STUDY OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJORS  
FROM GROUP I\*

Subject	Number of Persons
Biology	10
Sociology	7
Health	5
Recreation	2
Engineering	1
History	1
Political Science	1

\*There were 27 Physical Education majors from Group I representing 40 per cent of the group.

TABLE XVI

MINOR FIELDS OF STUDY OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJORS  
FROM GROUP II\*

Subject	Number of Persons
Biology	5
Sociology	4
Recreation	1
Engineering	1
Health	1
No Minor	1

\*There are 13 Physical Education majors from Group II representing 39 per cent of the group.

TABLE XVII

REASONS GIVEN FOR LEAVING THE STATE OF UTAH  
UPON COMPLETION OF THEIR EDUCATION

Reason	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
Occupation	51	60
Armed Service	5	7
Parents	4	5
Climate	4	5
No Reason	11	23
Total	75	100

Again a comparison was made between Group I, those who did not play organized football after college, with Group II, those who did play organized football after college. In both groups there was a high percentage who left the state. Group I had 62 per cent that were currently residing out of Utah and 38 per cent who remained in Utah as residents. Group II had 100 per cent who left the state. This can be contributed to the fact that Utah does not offer any post collegiate organized football teams for college alumni football players. In response to the question asking the 75 who did not reside in Utah to list the states in which they were living, it was found that they were scattered among 16 states and one foreign country. The results showed that the largest number, 38, lived in California.

The others ranking high in number were Canada (5); Colorado and Pennsylvania (4 each); Nevada, Washington, New Jersey, Missouri and Wyoming (2 each); Texas, New York, Massachusetts, Iowa, Idaho, Michigan and Brazil (1 each). A complete list of the states and the number living in each can be found in Tables XVIII, XIX, and XX.

TABLE XVIII

## PRESIDENT RESIDENCES OF GROUP I

Residence	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
California	30	48
Utah	18	28
Colorado	3	4
Pennsylvania	2	3
Oregon	2	3
Wyoming	1	1
Nevada	1	1
Texas	1	1
New Jersey	1	1
Brazil	1	1
Massachusetts	1	1
Iowa	1	1
Idaho	1	1
No Reply	4	6
Total	67	100

TABLE XIX

## PRESENT RESIDENCES OF GROUP II

Residence	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
California	8	25
Utah	7	21
Canada	5	15
Washington	2	6
Missouri	2	6
Pennsylvania	2	6
Wyoming	1	3
Colorado	1	3
New York	1	3
New Jersey	1	3
Nevada	1	3
Michigan	1	3
No Reply	1	3
Total	33	100

It was interesting to note that from the 100 sample football athlete respondents only 23 (23 per cent) came to the University of Utah from high schools within the state, and 77 (77 per cent) were recruited to the University from high schools or junior colleges outside the state. Also, of this 77 per cent, 50 (50 per cent) were



recruited from California schools.

TABLE XX

## TOTAL GROUP RESIDENCE

Residence	Number	Per cent
California	38	38
Utah	25	25
Canada	5	5
Colorado	4	4
Washington	4	4
Mississippi	2	2
Pennsylvania	2	2
Oregon	2	2
Wyoming	2	2
Nevada	2	2
Texas	1	1
New York	1	1
New Jersey	1	1
Michigan	1	1
Massachusetts	1	1
Iowa	1	1
Idaho	1	1
Brazil	1	1
No Reply	5	5
Total	100	100

Under the area of current occupation, 34 per cent of the total group listed high school coaching as their occupation and six per cent were currently coaching college football. Another 34 per cent listed organized professional football as their occupation. It was noted that 74 per cent of the total 100 respondents were still involved with football. Only 26 per cent of the former Utah athletes had left the area of football for various occupations. These occupations are listed according to Group I and Group II in Tables XXI and XXII.

The last area of consideration was the category of family status. This area included both marital status as well as the number of children in the families of those being surveyed. The findings revealed that of the 77 in Group I, 56 (83 per cent) were married and 11 (17 per cent) were not married. In Group II, 22 (67 per cent) of the 33 were married and 11 (33 per cent) were not married. A comparison was then made in both groups as to how many wives were working and how many were not. The findings revealed 27 wives (48 per cent) out of the 56 married in Group I were working, and 29 wives (52 per cent) were not working. In Group II, six respondents out of the 22 married (28 per cent) had wives that were working, and 16 (73 per cent) had wives that were not working.

In response to the question concerning the number of children in each of the 78 families, the following range was found: the total married group had 64 children. A comparison was then made between Group I and Group II to see if a difference in the average family size occurred. It was found that the average number of children in the

TABLE XXI

## PRESENT OCCUPATIONS HELD BY GROUP I

Occupations	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
High School Coach	13	22
Service	4	6
Engineer	4	6
Teacher	4	6
Government Employed	4	6
No Reply	4	6
Dockhand (shipping)	3	4
Security Guard	3	4
Industrial Representative	3	4
Physical Therapy	2	3
Pharmacy	2	3
Athletic Director	2	3
Student	2	3
Credit	2	3
Lawyer	2	3
Good Year Tire Co.	1	2
Gen. Manager of Baseball Tm.	1	2
Counselor	1	2
Auditor	1	2
Insurance	1	2
Baseball Player	1	2
Farming	1	2
College Coach	1	2
Construction	1	2
Total	67	100

TABLE XXII

PRESENT OCCUPATIONS HELD BY THE  
RESPONDENTS OF GROUP II

Occupation	Number of Persons	Per cent of Persons
Pro-football	11	32
High School Coach	4	12
College Coach	2	6
Student	2	6
Public Relations	2	6
Sales	2	6
Public Accountant	1	4
Service	1	4
Truck Line Management	1	4
Recreation Leader	1	4
Counselor	1	4
Retail	1	4
Transportation	1	4
Insurance	1	4
Total	33	100

families of Group I was higher than in those of Group II. The findings showed Group I with 49 children and Group II with only 15 children. This data is compiled in Table XXIII.

TABLE XXIII

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE FAMILIES  
OF EACH OF THE THREE GROUPS

	Number of Children	Per cent of Children
Total Group Surveyed	64	64
Group I	49	76
Group II	15	45

## CHAPTER IV

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A summary of the survey was presented in this chapter and conclusions were drawn from the information obtained. Also, recommendations were made based on an analysis of the data.

#### Summary

The survey undertaken was a status study comparing two groups of football athletes, those who upon leaving college joined some type of organized football team, with those who did not join a team upon leaving the University of Utah. An attempt was made to gain some information of the athletes who played football at the University of Utah between the years 1961 and 1966. Particular emphasis was placed in the areas of football career, educational achievements, current residences, occupations and family status. The most suitable source of data was the questionnaire specifically developed and sent to former University of Utah football athletes for completion. No attempt was made to compare the data of this selected group with any other group. However, comparisons were made among those within the total group itself. Two groups were established with which comparisons were made, and they then were compared with the total group in an attempt to discover any significant similarities or differences in the areas studied. Group II was designated as those former football athletes who pursued some form of post-collegiate



organized football team membership. Those former athletes who did not pursue any form of post-collegiate organized football were placed in Group I. The total group was composed of Group I and Group II collectively.

The general problem was to collect specific data from former Utah football athletes, between the years 1961 and 1966, and make comparisons between the designated Groups I and II. The specific problems were:

1. To determine in the area of football career the number of varsity football letters received during the years that the respondents played football and how many completed their football eligibility.

2. To determine educational achievements such as: degrees obtained, number of hours left before completing enough credits for graduation, reasons for not obtaining a degree in the four or five year period allotted and the major and minor fields of study at the time the survey was conducted.

3. To determine in the area of mobility the current residences of each person, and to determine how many had left the State of Utah and their reasons for doing so. Also noted was how many athletes had non-residence status while attending the University of Utah, and the states from which they were recruited.

4. To determine what occupation each individual was engaged in at the time the survey was conducted.

5. To determine in the area of family status the marital standing and number of children in each family.

In the area of football career, 13 out of the 100 respondents received one varsity letter at the University of Utah, 22 received two varsity letters, and 45 completed their eligibility, thus receiving three letters. A comparison was made between the group that pursued further football competition with those who did not. There was very little difference. Next a comparison was made between the two groups to determine if there were any differences between graduation, or near graduation, with completion or non-completion of football eligibility during the athlete's year at the University of Utah. A big difference occurred between the two groups with the athletes who did not complete their eligibility but did not graduate.

In the area of educational achievements, it was found that among the respondents studied, 69 held a Bachelor's degree, seven a Master's degree, none went on to the Doctorate level, and 22 did not receive any degree. A comparison was made between those who went on to play professional football and those who did not. Here there was a great difference among the two groups. In Group I nine per cent did not graduate, and in Group II, 48.5 per cent did not graduate. The comparison also showed eleven per cent in Group I had their Master's degree compared with none on the Master level in Group II. There was a significant difference between the two groups in reasons for not completing their education. Thirty-eight per cent of Group II gave school (grades) as their reason which was quite a bit higher than Group I (21 per cent higher). In the field of major field of study of the total group, it was found that 40 out of 100

(40 per cent) chose physical education. Out of this 40 per cent, 20 received their teaching certificates and out of those 20, 14 were teaching as an occupation.

In the area of residence, 75 of 100 respondents (75 per cent) were out of the State of Utah with only 25 (25 per cent) within the state. The most important reason given by 51 (60 per cent) of the 75 for leaving the state was occupation. In comparing the two groups a big difference was noted. Group II showed 100 per cent of the athletes left the State of Utah, whereas in Group I 38 per cent still resided in the state. When those who moved from Utah were surveyed, it was found that a high number of the 38 were living in the State of California. Canada was the next highest with five. The remaining 32 were scattered throughout the nation, with one in Brazil. Of the 100 respondents who went on to the University only 23 per cent came from high schools within the State of Utah, and 77 per cent were recruited from high schools and junior colleges outside the state.

The next matter of consideration was that of current occupation. It was found that from the total 100 respondents, 74 (or 74 per cent) had football incorporated into their occupation. Of the 74 per cent, 30 (or 34 per cent) were coaching high school football, six (or 6 per cent) were coaching college football and 34 (34 per cent) were playing organized football.

The last area of consideration was family status. A comparison showed 83 per cent of Group I to be married as compared to 67 per cent of Group II that were married. Next a comparison was made

to see the average differences of family sizes in each group. Group I had an average of two children whereas Group II had an average of one child per family.

### Conclusions

The following conclusions were drawn from the information contained within the thesis:

1. The University of Utah football athletes surveyed were very cooperative and would appear to serve as an excellent source of information for future studies.
2. During the years 1961 to 1966, approximately one-third of the University of Utah's football athletes had demonstrated ability along with an interest to pursue an active professional career in football.
3. In the area of football career during collegiate days, a significant difference was found between the two groups in those who received a degree with those who did not. The members of Group II, those who went on to play post-college organized football, seemed to have a greater interest in playing football than in securing an education.
4. All the respondents who received their teaching certificates left the State of Utah. The reason for this seems to be the low teaching pay scale in Utah.
5. The majority of athletes migrated to California upon completing their education. This would indicate that these Utah football athletes of 1961-66 felt that California had more to offer than

Utah as far as higher occupational pay opportunities were concerned. Because of the low pay scale, Utah appears to be losing and has lost many educational investments to other more profitable areas.

6. During the years 1961-1966, most of the recruiting took place in California providing another area of state resource drainage.

### Recommendations

Upon the completion of the survey and an analysis of the data, the following recommendations were made:

1. Student athletes should be used to gain further information through additional surveys because of the cooperation they expressed in this study.

2. Student athletes should be used to determine the general attitude held toward their interest ability and feelings toward football at the University of Utah.

3. The football coaching staff should continue to encourage all of their players to graduate.

4. A further study should be undertaken to determine why so few athletes who start out in education do not complete their teaching certification program.

5. The State Department of Education and the legislature should continually be aware that there is a loss of University of Utah graduates from the state because of low pay scale. This is a loss of talented, educated people who could enrich the communities throughout Utah greatly. To keep these trained people in Utah more funds

need to be appropriated into the communities to raise the pay scales on level competitive to other areas. For example, more resources could be sanctioned for raising teaching salaries, thus encouraging graduates to stay in Utah as teachers.

6. A further comparative study should be made on former University of Utah football athletes in 1961-1966 with 1966-1969, due to the change-overs in coaching staffs.



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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## APPENDIX

## APPENDIX I

### QUESTIONNAIRE

DIRECTIONS: Please respond by making a check in the box or by writing in the appropriate answer.

#### I. FOOTBALL

##### A. College

1. When did you start your first year of varsity football?

	<u>Spring</u>	<u>Fall</u>
(1) 1961	_____	_____
(2) 1962	_____	_____
(3) 1963	_____	_____
(4) 1964	_____	_____
(5) 1965	_____	_____
(6) 1966	_____	_____

(If you are eligible and participating in college football in 1967-68, do not proceed with the questionnaire.)

2. How many varsity football letters have you received at the University of Utah?

- (1) One
- (2) Two
- (3) Three

3. Did you complete your intercollegiate football eligibility?

- (1) Yes \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) No \_\_\_\_\_

4. If no, please indicate reason for not completing your football eligibility.

- (1) School problem
- (2) Family problem
- (3) Financial problem
- (4) Player-coach conflict
- (5) Armed forces
- (6) Injury
- (7) Other reason (List and Describe)

5. Did you enjoy playing college varsity football?

(Please indicate a general overall appraisal)

- (1) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

If no, please indicate reason for lack of enjoyment.

B. Post-College

6. Are you playing or did you participate in organized football after college? (If yes, please respond).

- (1) Pro
- (2) Semi-pro
- (3) Service Ball
- (4) Other (Please list)

7. If so, where are you presently playing or where did you play organized football after college?

8. If you are not playing now, how many years did you play football after college, and please indicate reason that best describes why you are not currently playing.

- (1) One
- (2) Two
- (3) Three
- (4) Four
- (5) Five
- (6) Other (Please list):

9. Reasons:

- (1) Family
- (2) Other job offer
- (3) Armed forces
- (4) Injury
- (5) Other reasons (Please list):

10. Do you or did you enjoy playing post-college football?

- (1) Yes\_\_\_\_\_ (2) No\_\_\_\_\_

## II. EDUCATION

### A. Undergraduate

11. What was your major and minor field of study at the University of Utah?

Major:

Minor:

12. What degree or credential did you have when you started your first job?



Degree: (1) Bachelor of Science

(2) Bachelor of Arts

(3) Associate of Arts

Credential: General Secondary

Others (Specify)

13. What year did you receive your Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts?

14. If you do not have your degree, do you have present or future plans to obtain your bachelor's degree? Yes\_\_\_\_  
No\_\_\_\_ (Please indicate the year, school, and field of study)

Year:

School:

Major:

Minor:

15. Approximately how many quarters do you need to obtain your bachelor's degree?

16. Please indicate reason(s) for not obtaining your bachelor's degree while you were at the University of Utah.

(1) Family

(2) School (grades)

(3) Armed Services

(4) Marriage

(5) Children

(6) Job Offer

(7) Finances

(8) Other reason (Please list)

17. Has the amount of college training you have had up to this date prepared you for what you are presently occupied in?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

18. If you have your degree, has your college training prepared you for your desired occupation?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

B. Post Graduate

19. Have you received a master's or doctor's degree?

Please indicate the degree and year obtained.

Master of Science

Master of Arts

Doctor of Philosophy

Ed. D.

Other Degrees (Please list):

20. If you have not received a master's degree, do you plan presently or in the future to work towards and obtain a master's degree? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Please indicate what year? \_\_\_\_\_

21. What is or what will be your major and minor fields of study in graduate school?

22. Does your present or future job opportunities require you to obtain added training for a second degree?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

23. Is a college degree (BS or MS) important in your life?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### III. RESIDENCE

#### A. Pre-college

24. What high school did you graduate from?

High School

City

State

25. Where do your parents presently reside?

City

State

#### B. Post-college

26. Where are you presently residing?

City

State

27. Please check for what reason(s) you are not living in the State of Utah

Lived elsewhere (parents)

Family

Occupation

Armed Services

Financial Reasons

Other reasons (Please list)

28. Would you ever move back to the State of Utah for occupational or other reason?

(Please list)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Reason, if yes:

#### IV. OCCUPATION

##### A. Past

29. If any, what was your occupation prior to the one you presently have?

30. If your present occupation is different than your most previous one, please indicate reason(s) for making the job change.

(1) Family

(2) Better Position

(3) Financial Reason

(4) Benefits

(5) Better Location

(6) Armed Services

(7) Other Reason (Please list):

31. Has obtaining your college degree provided you with better job opportunities?

##### B. Present

32. What is your present occupation and job location?

33. Do your employers require you to have a college degree? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

34. Are you an active member of the community in which you work? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

With what organizations are you affiliated?

Please check:

Chamber of Commerce

Lions

Rotary

Kiwanis

Country Club

Other Clubs and Organizations (Please list all)

35. Do you want to maintain your present socio-economic position in your community?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

36. Would you encourage others to enter your field of training and work?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

37. Please check your job benefits:

- (1) Retirement fund
- (2) Social Security
- (3) Paid sick leave
- (4) Annual paid vacation
- (5) Accident and workers' compensation
- (6) Job Security
- (7) Hiring policies
- (8) Working hours
- (9) Opportunity for advancement

V. FAMILY STATUS

## A. Marital

38. Are you married or single?

Married\_\_\_\_\_ Single\_\_\_\_\_

If married, is your wife working?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

39. If single do you plan to get married soon?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

## B. Children

40. How many children do you have and how old are they?

Boys\_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Girls\_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX 2

June 1968

Dear Fellow University of Utah Football Athlete:

We are seeking your assistance in a study which involves a survey of some University of Utah varsity football lettermen. Lettermen from the years 1961 through 1966 will be contacted for this study. The information obtained will be valuable to future football athletes and to the Athletic and Physical Education Departments of the University of Utah.

As a member of this group, please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the stamped, self-addressed envelope. The questionnaire will take only a short period of your time to complete. Each question is vital to the results, so please complete each item. Time is also a factor to the researcher; therefore, prompt attention to the questionnaire and its return would be greatly appreciated.

No athlete will be identified in the results of the survey; therefore, you are not required to give your name on the questionnaire. A continuous number sequence will be used on the questionnaire to facilitate computation assessment.

Thank you for your courteous cooperation in this survey.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard A. Groth  
Master's Candidate  
University of Utah

/s/ O. N. Hunter, Ed. D.  
Dean of College of HPER  
University of Utah

## APPENDIX 3

August, 1968

Dear Fellow University of Utah Football Athlete:

Recently a questionnaire for a study pertaining to some University of Utah varsity football lettermen was mailed to you. This information, when acquired and compiled, will be a valuable reference for the University of Utah as well as other interested persons. The enclosed inquiry has been developed to assist in the collection of the necessary data. In order to complete the tabulation of results, your questionnaire is needed. I do hope I will receive your completed copy in the near future.

Thus far the response has been encouraging. The information you provide, which will be kept in complete confidence, will aid in securing a high percentage return for the study. In the event that you have misplaced the first questionnaire, I am enclosing another copy with a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your convenience in returning the questionnaire.

Your effort will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard A. Groth  
Master's Candidate  
University of Utah